

COMMITMENT



Texas Department of Health
Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program

April, 1998

Volume 7, Number 4

Billing Changes Will Affect Providers in FY 99

The Texas Department of Health (TDH) is making several changes to their current rules for Grants Management. Many changes will affect Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) providers. Some of these changes are indicated in the box to the right.

BCCCP looks at several factors when funding providers for a new contract. These factors include whether a provider bills monthly or sporadically or if a provider has billed at all. It is pertinent that providers bill on a monthly basis.

If you have any questions regarding these new policies, contact Kathy Kokel, Contract Specialist at (800) 452-1955.

Grants Management Requirements

- June 1 will be the last day for the State to submit any revisions to your contract.
- As of September 1, 1998, providers must bill within 30 days of the previous month's services.
- By September 1, 1998, all providers will need to have payments direct deposited. (According to Government Code Section 403.016(c)).
- Providers must submit final close out billings no later than 90 days following the end of the contract. For the BCCCP contract, this means that November 30, 1998 will be the last day billings can be submitted. This deadline will be strictly monitored by Grants Management.

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RFP for Unserved Areas Available Now

The Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) is currently accepting proposals for new providers. Providers must provide services to eligible women in unserved areas of the state.

The priority population includes women age 50 - 64, with incomes at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level. African American women age 50 or older

are at greatest risk of dying from breast cancer and must be prioritized for services.

Approximately \$300,000 is expected to be available to fund several projects with a 12-month budget. The specific dollar amount to be awarded to each successful applicant will depend upon the merit and scope of the proposed

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BCCCP Briefs

Training

New Employee Orientation is scheduled for Wednesday, April 15. Contact Karen McAnarney, R.N., Nurse Consultant at (800) 452-1955.

There are four slots available for the Breast Cancer Detection Course offered by West Texas A&M University at the Harrington Cancer Center in Amarillo. BCCCP will pay for base tuition. Contact Karen McAnarney, R.N., Nurse Consultant at (800) 452-1955 for more information.

There are some remaining slots available for the M.D. Anderson training in June and July. Contact Karen McAnarney, R.N., Nurse Consultant at (800) 452-1955 for more information.

Internet Resources

National Cervical Cancer Coalition can be found at: <http://www.nccc-online.org>

You can find the Pap Test Information Center at: <http://www.paptest.com>

Who to Call & How to Reach Us...

General Information/Administration:

Margaret Méndez	Robert Reeves
Nora Ogea	Lisa West
Lurah Oliver	Rhonnda Jones

Professional Education, Clinical Services, Case Management:

Karen Knox	Karen McAnarney
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Public Information and Outreach:

Stephen Wright	Andrea Littlefield
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Data Collection and Maintenance:

Vincent Crawley	Christina Stovall
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Codie Prinz	Wanda Gibson
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Steve Johnson	June Browning
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Cancer Epidemiology/Demographics:

Christina Stovall

Billing:

Kathy Kokel	Codie Prinz
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(512) 458-7644

(800) 452-1955

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email: [margaret.mendez \(or other staff first name, period and last name\)@tdh.state.tx.us](mailto:margaret.mendez (or other staff first name, period and last name)@tdh.state.tx.us)

Website Address

<http://www.tdh.state.tx.us/bcccp/>

Local Changes

Please call or write Lisa West, Administrative Technician, with **ANY** changes in local phone numbers, personnel or providers. *Thank you.*

Calling All Case Managers!

The Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) is planning a Case Management Conference for July in Houston. The conference theme is "Blueprint for the Future: Building Case Management." The purpose of the conference is to provide case management and administrative staff with the skills, information and strategies to implement effective case management.

Breakout sessions are currently being planned in the areas of interviewing, documentation, tracking systems, integration of BCCCP into your program, funding, and volunteering. Each breakout session will offer an

opportunity for learning, discussion and planning. The "Lessons from the Field" session will allow participants to hear about what other programs are doing and different projects they have completed. A final wrap-up session will let participants to set goals and timelines for projects.

Hotel negotiations are currently in process. A brochure, which will include a registration form, will be sent soon to BCCCP providers. For more information about the conference, contact Karen Knox, Case Management Coordinator at (800) 452-1955.

Time to Replenish Data Forms!

You should have received a fax from Wanda Gibson, Public Health Technician, regarding your upcoming data form needs. A response is not necessary unless there is a discrepancy in the estimation of forms needed. This estimate is for your next six-month supply of forms. The forms will be shipped to providers beginning the week of March 23. If you have any questions or did not receive a fax/forms, contact Wanda Gibson, Public Health Technician at (800) 452-1955.



RFP continued from page 1

project.

The deadline for submission of applications is April 29, 1998. Applications received or postmarked after 5:00 p.m. C.S.T. on April 29, 1998 will not be considered for review.

If you would like to receive a packet or have any questions, contact Stephen Wright, Public Information Officer or Kathy Kokel, Contract Specialist at (800) 452-1955.

Ask The Expert

*Don't forget, **you** can submit your own questions on any subject related to the program such as nursing, case management, billing, data or outreach. Send questions to Andrea Littlefield, Information Specialist, 1100 West 49th Street, Austin, TX 78756-3199.*

Q How should clinics handle patients that are younger than 50 years of age that have concerns about breast pain or discharge?

A If a woman is symptomatic, she can be seen in the program if she is income eligible, regardless of her age. The age criteria is pertinent only in regard to screening and does not apply when a woman is symptomatic. In this instance, a minimum of two diagnostic procedures should follow if the clinician's exam reveals a suspicion of cancer.

Q If I send in a diagnostic form with "recommend short-term follow-up" checked will this show up on my pending list?

A No, this is not a pending situation. Short-term follow-up is the recommendation that the woman be rescreened in three to six months, prior to her annual examination.

Hot Off The Press!



BCCCP has several publications and outreach materials available for providers.

- Placemats, English or Spanish
- Greeting/Reminder Cards, English or Spanish
- Shower Cards, English (African American), English (Caucasian) or Spanish
- "Breast Cancer Can Kill You, Finding It Early Can Save You" Brochure, English or Spanish

The State office can customize the "Breast Cancer Can Kill You, Finding It Early Can Save You" brochures for you. You will need to provide names, addresses and phone numbers of all the clinics you would like to have printed on the back of the brochure. Contact Andrea Littlefield, Information Specialist at (800) 452-1955 to order.

BCCCP Initiating Materials Review Committee

The Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) is looking for volunteers to serve on a new Material's Review Committee.

The Committee will review, on a quarterly basis, educational materials that are produced by many different organizations and received by the State office. The materials will include brochures,

packets, video tapes, audio cassettes, and other items. The Committee will review the content and the aesthetic nature of the material and make recommendations on outstanding materials to be used for client education and community outreach.

The BCCCP particularly seeks a bilingual (English/Spanish) nurse, physician or health educator with

expertise in breast and cervical cancer to serve on the committee. Travel will be reimbursed for BCCCP providers.

If you would be interested in serving on this Committee, contact Andrea Littlefield, Information Specialist by April 15, 1998 at (800) 452-1955.

Reach Older Women Through Their Daughters

With Mother's Day right around the corner, you might want to start thinking about planning a small outreach project. Planned Parenthood of Cameron and Willacy Counties has the answer.

For the past four years, Planned Parenthood has printed special Mother's Day cards with a coupon for Mom. Planned Parenthood sells the cards for \$25 to young women who routinely report for family planning services. The young women can then give the card to their mother, grandmother, or an aunt as a Mother's Day gift.

The coupon entitles the recipient to comprehensive health services including a breast examination, Pap test, blood pressure check, and other services.

"This was very successful last year. Since a woman is here for

family planning services, it gives us an opportunity to let them know that we provide mid-life services as well. It's a very economical way to get older women in for cancer screening services," said Blanca Cavazos, Director of Patient Services.

A clerk automatically informs every woman who visits the clinic about the Mother's Day card and coupon. The agency will work out a payment plan for any woman who has difficulty paying the \$25 fee.

For more information about this promotion, contact Blanca Cavazos, Director of Patient Services at Planned Parenthood of Cameron and Willacy Counties at (956) 425-7526.



Important Dates

April

- National Minority Cancer Awareness Month
- National Cancer Control Month

April 15 **NEW!**

New Employee Orientation, Austin

April 21

San Jacinto Day
Skeleton Crew at State Office

May

- National Melanoma/Skin Cancer Prevention Month

May 25

Memorial Day - State Office Closed

Women Served*:

98,336

Breast Screenings:

113,744

Cervical Screenings:

86,476

Breast Cancers:

555

Cervical Carcinoma in situ:

1307

Invasive Cervical Cancer:

44

*As of March 12, 1998

Commitment

A monthly bulletin

Send news/information to:

**Texas Department of Health
Breast & Cervical Cancer Control Program
1100 West 49th Street
Austin, TX 78756-3199**

Telephone: (800) 452-1955

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